

boasts a 100-percent graduation rate for the young women of his team. That is something to be emulated across the country. The entire sports world could learn a great deal from Coach Auriemma and his staff and the generation of UConn women's players who have played for him. Athletes do not need to sacrifice an education or other valuable things in life for the sake of winning. If you set your sights on excellence, there is no telling how much you can achieve in life and where excellence will come in every endeavor in which you engage.

Although some Huskies have gone on to excel in the WNBA, many others have gone on to careers as physicians, lawyers, and educators. I know Coach Auriemma is extremely proud of the alumni association that has come from the teams he has coached over the years.

Let me also congratulate everyone involved in this incredible season. I mentioned the four seniors on the team: Sue Bird; Swin Cash; Diana Taurasi, a young woman, not a senior. She was the most junior in age of the starting five. I mentioned Asjha Jones and Tamika Williams. The starting five is the only team in NCAA history where all five starting players are All-Americans. Sue Bird was on the first team, two were on the second team, one on the third team, and one honorable mention. That has never been done before by a starting five on a basketball team. And the other players on the team could easily have been a starting team almost anywhere else, and they contributed successfully to the success and overall efforts. They include: Jessica Moore, Ashley Battle, Maria Conlon, Morgan Valley, Ashley Valley, and Stacey Marron. Thanks go to Geno Auriemma and his associate head coach, Chris Dailey, and Tonya Cardoza and Jamelle Elliott.

Senator LIEBERMAN and I are very proud of this wonderful group of people, these young players. They receive a lot of support around Connecticut. We have always had to export our sports allegiance, on a professional level, and in Connecticut you are either a Boston Red Sox fan or a Yankee fan. Some are now Mets fans. In football, you either support the Giants or the Patriots. In hockey, it is Boston, New York, or New Jersey. At the collegiate level, the UConn men's team, under Jim Calhoun, had a wonderful season, getting to the final eight, losing to Maryland, and the UConn women's team going on to the third national title in the last few years.

While we don't have a professional sports team in our State, we have wonderful college athletics, and you can understand the great sense of pride we all feel over this unique and special accomplishment achieved by the UConn women's basketball team. I know my colleague is here being supportive.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT'S WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE NCAA NATIONAL TITLE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I send to the desk a resolution, S. Res. 232, and ask for its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 232) congratulating the Huskies of the University of Connecticut for winning the 2002 NCAA Division I women's basketball championship.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CORZINE). Without objection, the Senate will proceed to consider the resolution.

The junior Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, it is with profound pride—and I suppose I should add provincial pleasure—that I join Senator DODD and all of our colleagues from Connecticut in the House of Representatives in introducing this resolution, which is the legislative equivalent of wagging our tails and howling like huskies at the Capitol dome.

We are very proud to salute the 2002 national champion University of Connecticut women's Huskies basketball team, who, on March 31, capped a 39-to-0 season—a perfect season—the ninth undefeated run in the whole history of college basketball, with a victory over Oklahoma in the title game. I suppose we should pay some respect and give some sense of congratulations, even in defeat, to our former colleague, David Boren, who is now the president of the University of Oklahoma.

This fantastic season leads me to repeat a pressing question that opponents of the UConn women's basketball team must have been asking all year, which is: Who let the Huskies out? I think the answer might be the great Coach Geno Auriemma and his superb staff, who not only coached but led, inspired, and mentored this extraordinary group of women to this extraordinary season. This marks the third time that UConn women have leapt above the rim of college basketball and the first time in NCAA history that any school has gone unbeaten on two separate occasions.

Mr. President, you may remember—and I certainly do—a similar swell of pride when Rebecca Lobo and Jenn Rizzotti and company ran the table on the way to the national championship in 1995. For years to come, student athletes around the Nation will be striving to approach the perfection of this program, and we in Connecticut are so proud of it.

As Senator DODD indicated, five of these great basketball players won All-American notice. They poured in more points than any other team in the Nation and racked up an NCAA record average margin of victory of more than 35

points a game—a remarkable achievement.

But the true measure of the team, as Senator DODD indicated, can't be distilled in numbers or records. You have to look at the humans involved. The legendary Geno Auriemma, one of the winningest coaches in college basketball history, once again brought together a great group of talented and hard-working young women and imbued that team not just with the skills but with the team spirit and the togetherness that we saw on the court perfectly and gracefully executed time and time again.

Senator DODD referred to the four seniors who are legendary and will remain legendary in Connecticut for a long time to come: Sue Bird, Asjha Jones, Tamika Williams, and Swin Cash; and a great sophomore sensation, Diana Taurasi. They became an unstoppable combination. I will say with pride that the surge of success is starting to feel happily familiar to us, and we are very grateful for that. Over the last 4 years, the UConn women's team has gone 136 and 9, made three Final Four appearances, and claimed four Big East tournament titles in 4 years, along with the Huskies men's basketball team, which this year earned its 15th consecutive trip to national post-season play on the way to the Elite Eight. The two make a truly triumphant tandem, that Huskies men or women have now won the national college basketball championship in 1995, 1999, 2000, and 2002.

This is a great program, and we owe a particular thanks and expression of pride to the athletic director of the University of Connecticut, Lou Perkins, to coaches Geno Auriemma and Jim Calhoun, and to all their staffs.

Mr. President, this may give you some small sense of why Connecticut residents are as loyal to our Huskies as huskies are to their owners. We love the way this team came to play. We love the way they brought out the best in our State. If I may say so, as Americans, every day we pledge allegiance to the red, white, and blue; but during basketball season in Connecticut, we have a special place in our hearts for the white and blue alone. We are proud that the rest of the Nation is catching on. A record crowd of nearly 30,000 fans turned out at the Alamodome in San Antonio to watch the Huskies win the national title. That growing popularity is helping women's college basketball ascend to truly new heights.

I am proud to join with Senator DODD and our colleagues in the House in introducing this resolution and in congratulating the UConn players and coaches on their singular accomplishment and asking the Senate to do the same. We are filled with pride over the honor the Huskies have brought to Connecticut.

Two years ago, when Senator DODD and I were here and I was honored to give a similar speech saluting the UConn men's Huskies, I closed with the

UConn cheer. I believe if I don't do it today, there will be objections raised under various Federal statutes. So here it is: U-C-O-N-N, UConn, UConn, UConn.

Thank you. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the resolution and the preamble are agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 232) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 232

Whereas the University of Connecticut women's basketball team won its second national championship in 3 years by defeating the University of Oklahoma by the score of 82-70;

Whereas NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Coach of the Year Geno Auriemma's team finished the 2002 season with a perfect 39-0 record, becoming only the fourth NCAA Division I women's basketball team to go undefeated;

Whereas Sue Bird was chosen as the national women's player of the year;

Whereas Swin Cash was named the Final Four Most Outstanding Player;

Whereas Sue Bird, Swin Cash, Diana Taurasi, Asjha Jones, and Tamika Williams were selected as All-Americans;

Whereas the Huskies' 35-point average margin of victory during the regular season was the largest in NCAA Division I women's basketball history;

Whereas the Huskies dominated this year's NCAA Division I women's basketball tournament, averaging 83.3 points and a 27-point margin of victory en route to the championship;

Whereas the high caliber of the Huskies in both athletics and academics has significantly advanced the sport of women's basketball and provided inspiration for future generations of young men and women alike; and

Whereas the Huskies' season of unparalleled accomplishment rallied Connecticut residents of all ages, from New London to New Haven, from Hartford to Hamden, behind a common purpose, and triggered a wave of euphoria across the State: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commends the Huskies of the University of Connecticut for—

- (1) completing the 2001-2002 women's basketball season with a 39-0 record; and
- (2) winning the 2002 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to set the speaking order. I would like to have up to 10 minutes to speak, after which Senator MILLER would like 10 minutes, after which Senator FRIST would like 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ENERGY SECURITY

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about the need for an energy policy for our country. I have

tried ever since I have been in the Senate to get us to plan ahead, to lead our country to be self-sufficient in our energy needs. Unfortunately, the disagreements have been too great and Congress has not been able to come up with a plan that could be signed by the President.

Today we are not only talking about economic security, we are talking about something bigger, and that is national security. We must have an energy policy that begins to make our country self-sufficient because we can no longer allow 60 percent of our energy needs to be imported, especially from countries that may or may not be there for us.

I do not know what it takes for the American people to get it. Iraq has just said they are not going to export oil for 30 days. The United States uses 1 million barrels a day from Iraq and the world market. Every time a country says they are not going to produce, it takes that oil out of the world market and increases the price of gasoline at the pump and the cost to every factory to stay in business.

We are in a war. There is no question we are in a war on terrorism. We are in a war for the very freedoms on which our country was built. Religious diversity in our country has been the beacon in the world for tolerance and respect of people with different views. That has been attacked.

We are in a war, and when we are in a war, it means we must make sure our underlying strength is everything we can make it. Part of our underlying strength is a ready supply of energy. We must have a stable price for the energy we consume in our homes, in our cars, and in our factories to keep the jobs in our country.

We should have done this 6 years ago. We should have done it 4 years ago. We should have done it 2 years ago. But if we do not do it now, we are remiss in our responsibility as leaders of this country. The President has called on Congress to send him an energy package. We are debating an energy package that has been passed by the House. It is a balanced package. It increases production of oil and gas in our country. It has renewable incentives so that we will have wind energy and research into ethanol, soy fuel, and other products we can renew. It encourages the building of more nuclear powerplants which is a clean and safe energy. We will have more clean-burning coal.

There are so many opportunities for us to become self-sufficient, but until we have an energy policy, we will not be self-sufficient and we will be beholden to countries, such as Iraq, that are already cutting us off as I speak. We cannot allow any country, even a supposed friend, to have a veto over our economic stability which, in turn, is a veto over our national security. We cannot allow it, Mr. President. If we do, we are not the leaders of our country that we should be.

I am calling on the Senate to pass an energy bill. Even if it is not a perfect

bill, we need to pass an energy bill. I do not like the bill the Senate is considering. It has some big problems. We are trying to straighten out those problems, and we have made some headway. Some of the amendments that have been adopted have improved the bill.

When the price of gas at the pump goes up 14 cents in the last 14 days, we cannot sit here and twiddle our thumbs. We cannot do it in good conscience. It is time for the Senate to get to work.

There will be an amendment pending in the next 15 to 30 minutes. We need to complete that amendment and go to the next one. It is very important. Part of the bill will give tax incentives for the small drillers, the 15-barrel-a-day drillers, to stay in business so we will have stability if the price goes below \$15 a barrel. These are small business people. They are not going to reopen a well if they do not have some floor to help them stay in business and avoid the cost of closing that well. That is the reason many of the wells, that were closed when prices were \$11 a barrel, have not been reopened.

If we can get all of the marginal wells pumping in this country, we will equal the amount we import from Saudi Arabia every day. If we drill in a very small part of ANWR, we can equal the amount we import from Iraq every day. That would be a significant step toward our stability.

ANWR is an area the size of the State of South Carolina. Part of it has vegetation and is a wildlife preserve. The part we are talking about drilling is 2,000 acres, about the size of Dulles Airport. We are talking about the size of Dulles Airport and the State of South Carolina. I think sometimes when I hear the environmentalists debate this issue, they do not know about the new techniques for drilling. We do not drill all over an area anymore. We used to have an oil well about every 50 feet. We do not do that anymore because we have technology that allows us to go down lower and spread out to get the oil without damaging the surface at all.

We are talking about a very small area that can be drilled, and it happens to be an area that does not have vegetation. Two-thirds of the year it is ice, and the road will not ever hit the dirt because it is an ice road. We will not harm the caribou. There was a study that came out from the Department of the Interior that indicated there would be harm to the caribou, but they were not talking about the bill we are going to address. The assumptions the Department made in the report are not in the bill that the House passed. It is a totally different issue. They assume we will be drilling in other parts of the refuge which we will not.

We will be sensitive to the environment. We should also protect the national security of our country. We can do both. Do we want to protect jobs and security in America, or do we want to be beholden to foreign countries for